



The Fifth Annual AHATA Environmental Committee Art Competition is underway!

It is time for everyone to get creative and start converting trash into treasure, as members of the AHATA Environmental Committee announced the launching of this year's Recycled Art Competition during a press conference in their offices on Thursday afternoon. Astrid Muller, Chairperson of the committee and General Manager of the Divi Phoenix Resort was joined by board members Menno v/d Straten of the Divi Links and Celia Geerman of the Wyndham Aruba Resort Spa & Casino to advise the public of the coming competition and expo.

There are a number of categories that will be judged and awarded prizes, thus encouraging resourcefulness and creativity from individuals and the employees of businesses and institutions. Last year's competition showed how waste materials such as empty soda cans, bottles (whole and broken), discarded magazines, and other debris could be converted into something useful and beautiful. This year the theme is "Our Nature," with the requirement that artwork depict something that is about our land, sea or air.

Committee members remind those wishing to participate that artwork can be constructed of glass, aluminum, paper, cardboard, foam or plastic, but from the garbage bin. The final work can be beautified with paint and other art materials, but must prove how imagination and creativity can provide original and interesting ways to recycle.

There are seven categories for the entries; Kindergarten, Grammar School grades one through three, and another for grades four to six, Secondary School, Individual entries, Professional artists, and entries from Hotels and businesses. Those wishing to participate in the expo and competition must register with Anky Bruin at the AHATA offices by May 02, 2006, and provide the dimensions of their work, and the optimal method of display, whether it need to be hung up or placed on table. The Exposition will take place at the National Library in Oranjestad from May 8<sup>th</sup> to May 12<sup>th</sup>, and then be moved to the San Nicolas library and displayed from May 15<sup>th</sup>, to the 19<sup>th</sup>. The last day of the San Nicolas Expo will also be when the winners in the various categories will be announced and the prizes awarded. These often weekend stays at resorts or dinners from various restaurant and excursions for tour operators that all donate their services to this project. For more information about entering the competition and requirements, contact Anky at the AHATA offices; telephone # 582-2607, Astrid Muller at #586-6606 ext. 7027 or Doris Dreischor at the Bucuti Beach Resort, #583-1100.